

PROD 14-2-2

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Geographic Division, ORR

## Project Initiation Memorandum

To: Chief, Geographic Research

Project No.: 64.1782

From: Chief, Geography Division

Date: 18 June 1959

1. Subject of Proposed Project: **A Geographic Appraisal of Irrigated Agriculture in Soviet Central Asia.**
2. Statement of Problem: (Outline to be extracted) This study proposes to evaluate the agricultural capabilities of Soviet Central Asia primarily on the basis of water requirements and water availability. Other physical elements will be considered only as they directly affect irrigation agriculture. Factors such as the distribution of irrigated lands, irrigation networks, and crops and the contribution of irrigation agriculture in Soviet Central Asia to the Soviet economy will also be analyzed. The aim of the study is to determine the feasibility of recent, extensive plans for the expansion of irrigation agriculture in Soviet Central Asia, and the possibility of even further expansion.
3. Requester: Self-initiated.
4. Responsible Analyst and Branch: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

5. Source of Cooperation Desired from:

a. Other Divisions of the G Area: (Include maps):

**Maps by G/Cartography Division.**

b. D/G/C Domestic Procurement:

**None**

c. Other parts of CIA:

**None**

d. Outside CIA:

**None**

6. Estimated Man Hours in D/GC:

**200 in D/GC**

7. Probable Completion Date:

**September 1959**

8. Probable Form of Final Publication:

**CIA/RR G 59-**

9. Recommendations Regarding Distribution of Finished Report:

10. Comments:

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**See attached memorandum of 10 June 59 from Departmental Branch, D/M commenting on this proposed project.**

Approved:

25X1A9a

24 JUN 1959

Date

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25X1A9a [REDACTED] -- Is this really useful to the tune of 200 manhours in the opinion of your office?

To Ch/E from M/AG:

25X1A9a [REDACTED] -- M/AG has re-examined this proposed project and continue to view it as useful and worthy of research effort. D/GG discussed the project with M/AG before it was formally initiated. M/AG feel that they could usefully undertake this kind of project themselves if their resources permitted. We endorse this project as a useful contribution to M/AG research activities.

/s/ HM

To DAD/RR from Ch/E:

Bill -- Per attached note, looks OK to us. /s/ ELA

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OUTLINE for PN 64.1782 (18 June 1959)

- I. Introduction
  - A. Statement of Problem
  - B. Research Goals and Methodology
- II. The Status of Irrigation in Soviet Central Asia
  - A. The Contribution of Irrigated Agriculture in Soviet Central Asia to the Soviet Economy
  - B. Past Patterns of Irrigated Agriculture
  - C. Present Distribution of Irrigated Lands and Crops
    - 1. Increase in Production on Irrigated Lands
    - 2. Utilization of Peripheral Land
  - D. Relief Factors Limiting Irrigation
  - E. Soil Factors Limiting Irrigation
- III. The Climatic Factor and Irrigation Water Requirements
  - A. Thermal Conditions
    - 1. Growing Season
    - 2. Occurrence of Frost and Hot Winds
  - B. Precipitation
  - C. Irrigation Water Requirements Computed by the Blaney-Criddle Method
- IV. Water Resources Available for Irrigation
  - A. Hydrographic Factors
    - 1. Characteristics of Rivers
      - a. Volume
      - b. Flow
    - 2. Water Table Characteristics
  - B. Irrigation Networks
    - 1. Present Network
    - 2. Planned Expansion
- V. Future Prospects for Irrigated Agriculture in Soviet Central Asia
  - A. Planned Expansion of Irrigated Acreage
    - 1. Defunct Sixth Five-Year Plan
    - 2. New Seven-Year Plan
    - 3. Future Patterns of Land Utilisation and Crop Distribution
  - B. An Analysis of Future Water Requirements and Water Availability

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THRU : Acting Chief, USSR Branch, Geography Division  
THRU : Chief, Planning and Review Staff  
THRU : Chief, Materials Division  
Deputy Chief, Food and Agriculture Branch, D/M

10 June 1959

Comments on Geography Division Project Proposal, "A Geographic Appraisal of Irrigated Agriculture in Soviet Central Asia"

1. We believe that the proposed project will produce information of value to M/AG in our evaluation of the Soviet agricultural potential. Irrigation in Central Asia is one of the important means by which the Soviets expect to increase agricultural output.
2. We will be happy to furnish bibliographic leads and consultation.

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